

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGKO 04813 031311Z
ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
IO-13 AID-05 /073 W
-----031319 001965 /45
P 031130Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9794

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 4813

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TH
SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTING TO THE CONGRESS

REF: A) STATE 46674, B) BANGKOK 3798, C) STATE 38407

1. SINCE PREPARATION BY THE DEPART OF AN UNCLASSIFIED
HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT ON THAILAND IN DEC, 1976 (REFTEL).
THE FOLLOWING FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS HAVE OCCURRED.

2. AS OF JAN 19, 1977, ABOUT 2,000 PERSONS ARRESTED
UNDER NARC ORDER 22 WERE STILL DETAINED. THE DIRECTOR-
GENERAL OF THE CORRECTIONS DEPART ESTIMATED THEN THAT
LESS THAN A HUNDRED WERE DETAINED UNDER CATEGORIES IN-
VOLVING POLITICAL CONDUCT. THE OTHERS WERE HELD ON CHARGES
OF VAGRANCY AND FOR COMMON CRIEMS. THE RTG IS REVIEWING
THE CASES OF THE DETAINEES AT TWO MONTH INTERVALS, RE-
LEASING THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN "REHABILITATED".

3. FOUR
OF THE 336 STILL DETAINED AFTER BEING
ARRESTED DURING THE OCT. 6, 1976 INCIDENT, WERE RECENTLY
RELEASED (O/A FEB. 23). THE POLICE HAVE PUBLICLY STATED
THAT ONLY ABOUT 143 OF THE RMAINDER WILL BE
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BROUGHT TO TRIAL. THE REST WILL BE RELEASED OUT-
RIGHT.

4. ON FEB 16, 1977, THE THAI GOVERNMENT EXPELLED
BRITISH JOURNALIST NORMAN PEAGAM, BANGKOK CORRES-
PONDENT FOR THE FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, FOR AN
ARTICLE HE WROTE WHICH HINTED AT A POSSIBLE COUP BECAUSE

OF AN ALLEGED SPLIT BETWEEN THE CABINET AND THE MILITARY.
HE IS THE ONLY FOREIGN JOURNALIST EXPELLED TO DATE.
(REF. B).

5. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT RPT NOT PLAN TO BRING THE
CONTENTS OF THE REPORT PERTAINING TO THAILAND TO THE
ATTENTION OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT AT THIS TIME. IF
APPROACHED BY THE RTG HERE REGARDING THE REPORT BEING
SENT TO CONGRESS, WE WILL PROVIDE THE REQUESTED INFOR-
MATION ALONG THE LINES AUTHORIZED IN REF. C.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, REPORTS, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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